

DEM

DEMU'CENT. *adj.* [*demeicent*, Latin.] Softening; mollifying; assuasive.

Pease, being deprived of any aromatick parts, are mild and demulcent in the highest degree; but being full of aerial particles, are flatulent, when dissolved by digestion. *Arbutnot.*
To DEMUR. *v. n.* [*demeurer*, French; *dimorare*, Italian; *demorari*, Latin.]

1. To delay a process in law by doubts and objections. See DEMURRER.

To this plea the plaintiff demurred. *Walton's Angler.*
2. To pause in uncertainty; to suspend determination; to hesitate; to delay the conclusion of an affair.

Upon this rub the English ambassadors thought fit to demur, and so sent into England to receive directions from the lords of the council. *Hayward.*

Running into demands, they expect from us a sudden resolution in things, wherein the devil of Delphos would demur. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. i. c. 3.*

He must be of a very sluggish or querulous humour, that shall demur upon setting out, or demand higher encouragements than the hope of heaven. *Decay of Piety.*

News of my death from rumour he receiv'd,
And what he with'd, he easily believ'd;
But long demur'd, though from my hand he knew
I liv'd, so loth he was to think it true. *Dryden's Aurengzebe.*

3. To doubt; to have scruples or difficulties; to deliberate.

There is something in our composition, that thinks and apprehends, and reflects and deliberates, determines and doubts, consents and denies; that wills and demurs, and resolves and chuses, and rejects. *Bentley.*

To DEMUR. *v. a.* To doubt of.

The latter I demur; for in their looks

Much reason, and in their actions, oft appears. *Milt. P. L.*

DEMURE. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Doubt; hesitation; suspense of opinion.

O progeny of heav'n, empyreal thrones!

With reason hath deep silence and demur

Seiz'd us, though undismay'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*

Certainly the highest and dearest concerns of a temporal

life are infinitely less valuable than those of an eternal; and

consequently ought, without any demur at all, to be sacrificed

to them, whenever they come in competition with them. *South.*

All my demurs but double his attacks;

At last he whispers, Do, and we go snags. *Pope's Epistles.*

DEMURE. *adj.* [*des mœurs*, French.]

1. Sober; decent.

Lo! two most lovely virgins came in place,

With countenance demure, and modest grace. *Fairy Queen.*

Come, penfive nun, devout and pure,

Sober, steadfast and demure. *Milton.*

2. Grave; affectedly modest: it is now generally taken in a sense of contempt.

After a demure travel of regard, I tell them I know my

place, as I would they should do theirs. *Shakep. Twelfth Night.*

There be many wise men, that have secret hearts and transparent

countenances; yet this would be done with a demure

abasing of your eye sometimes. *Bacon, Essay 23.*

A company of mice, peeping out of their holes, spied a cat,

that lay and looked so demure as if there had been neither life

nor soul in her. *LeStrange.*

So cat, transform'd, fat gravely and demure,

'Till mouse appear'd, and thought himself secure. *Dryden.*

Jove sent and found, far in a country scene,

Truth, innocence, good-nature, look serene;

From which ingredients, first, the dextrous boy

Pick'd the demure, the awkward, and the coy. *Swift.*

To DEMURE. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To look with an affected

modesty.

Your wife Octavia, with her modest eyes,

And still conclusion, shall acquire no honour,

Demuring upon me. *Shakep. Anthony and Cleopatra.*

DEMURELY. *adv.* [from demure.] With affected modesty;

solemnly; with pretended gravity.

Put on a sober habit,

Talk with respect, and swear but now and then,

Wear prayer-books in my pocket, look demurely. *Shakep.*

Esop's damsel, turned from a cat to a woman, sat very

demurely at the board's end, 'till a mouse ran before her. *Bacon.*

Next stood hypocrisy with holy leer,

Soft smiling, and demurely looking down;

But hid the dagger underneath the gown. *Dryden's Fables.*

2. In the following line it is the same with solemnly. *Warb.*

Hark, how the drums demurely wake the sleepers! *Shakep.*

DEMURENESS. *n. f.* [from demure.]

1. Modesty; soberness; gravity of aspect.

Her eyes having in them such a cheerfulness, as nature

seem'd to smile in them; though her mouth and cheeks obeyed

to that pretty demureness, which the more one marked, the

more one would judge the poor soul apt to believe. *Sidney.*

2. Affectedly modesty; pretended gravity.

DEMURAGE. *n. f.* [from demur.] An allowance made by

merchants to masters of ships, for their stay in a port beyond

the time appointed.

DEN

DEMURRER. *n. f.* [*demeurer*, French; i. e. *manere in aliquo loco morari*.] A kind of pause upon a point of difficulty in an

action; for, in every action, the controversy consists either

in the fact, or in the law: if in the fact, that is tried by the

jury; if in law, then is the case plain to the judge, or so hard

and rare, as it breedeth just doubt. I call that plain to the

judge, wherein he is assured of the law; and in such case the

judge, with his associates, proceeds to judgment without farther

work. But when it is doubtful to him and his associates, then is there stay made, and a time taken, either for the court

to think farther upon it, and to agree, if they can; or else for all the justices to meet together in the Chequer-chamber, and, upon hearing that which the sergeants can say of both

parts, to advise, and set down as law, whatsoever they conclude firm, without farther remedy. *Cowd.*

A prohibition was granted, and hereunto there was a demurrer. *Ayliffe's Paragon.*

DEN. *n. f.* [den, Saxon.]

1. A cavern or hollow running horizontally, or with a small

obliquity, under ground; distinct from a hole, which runs

down perpendicularly.

They here dispersed, some in the air, some on the earth,

some in the waters, some amongst the minerals, dens and caves

under the earth. *Hooker, b. i. f. 4.*

2. The cave of a wild beast.

What, shall they seek the lion in his den,

And fright him there? *Shakep. King John.*

The tyrant's den, whose use, though lost to fame,

Was now th' apartment of the royal dame;

The cavern, only to her father known,

By him was to his darling daughter shown. *Dryden's Fables.*

'Tis then the shapeless bear his den forsakes;

In woods and fields a wild destruction makes. *Dryd. Virgil.*

3. Den may signify either a valley or a woody place; for the

Saxon den imports both. *Giles's Camden.*

DENIAL. *n. f.* [a word formed between deny and nay.] Denial;

refusal.

To her in haste, give her this jewel: say

My love can give no place, bide no deny. *Sh. Twel. Night.*

DENDROLOGY. *n. f.* [*dendron* and *logos*.] The natural history of

trees.

DENIAL. *adj.* [from deny.] That which may be denied;

that to which one may refuse belief.

The negative authority is also deniable by reason. *Brown.*

DENIAL. *n. f.* [from deny.]

1. Negation; the contrary to confession.

No man more impudent to deny, where proofs were not

manifest; no man more ready to confess, with a repenting

manner of aggravating his own evil, where denial would but

make the fault fouler. *Sidney, b. ii.*

2. Refusal; the contrary to grant, allowance, or concession.

Here comes your father; never make denial:

I must and will have Catharine to my wife. *Shakep. Twel. Night.*

The denial of landings, and hasty warning us away, troubled

us much: on the other side, to find people so full of humanity,

did comfort us. *Bacon's New Atlantis.*

He, at every fresh attempt, is repell'd

With faint denials, weaker than before. *Dryden's Ann. Mir.*

3. Abjuration; contrary to acknowledgment of adherence.

We may deny God in all those acts that are capable of being

morally good or evil: those are the proper scenes, in which

we act our confessions or denials of him. *South's Sermons.*

DENIAL. *n. f.* [from deny.]

1. A contradictor; an opponent; one that holds the negative of

a proposition.

By the word virtue the affirmer intends our whole duty to

God and man, and the denier by the word virtue means only

courage, or, at most, our duty towards our neighbour, without

including the idea of the duty which we owe to God. *Watt's Logick, p. i. c. 6. f. 3.*

2. A disowner; one that does not own or acknowledge.

If it was so fearful when Christ looked his denier into repentance,

what will it be when he shall look him into destruction. *South's Sermons.*

3. A refuser; one that refuses.

It may be I am esteemed by my denier: sufficient of myself

to discharge my duty to God as a priest, though not to men as

a prince. *Shakep. Taming of the Shrew.*

DENIER. *n. f.* [from denarius, Lat. It is pronounced as denary, in

two syllables.] A small denomination of French money; the

twelfth part of a sou.

You will not pay for the glasses you have burst?

—No, not a denier. *Shakep. Taming of the Shrew.*

To DENIGRATE. *v. a.* [*denigro*, Latin.] To blacken; to

make black.

By suffering some impression from fire, bodies are casually

or artificially denigrated in their natural complexion: thus

are charcoals made black by an infection of their own

suffitus. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vi. c. 12.*

Hartshorn, and other white bodies, will be denigrated by

heat; yet camphire would not at all lose its whiteness. *Boyle.*

DENIGRATION.

DEN

DENIGRATION. *n. f.* [*denigratio*, Latin.] A blackening, or

making black.

These are the adventitious and artificial ways of denigration,

answerably whereto may be the natural progress. *Brown.*

In several instances of denigration the metals are worn

off, or otherwise reduced into very minute parts. *Boyle.*

DENIZATION. *n. f.* [from denizen.] The act of enfranchising,

or making free.

That the mere Irish were reputed aliens appears by the characters

of denization, which in all ages were purchased by them. *Davies on Ireland.*

DENIZEN. *n. f.* [from *dingeldyn*, a man of the city, or *denizen*,

free of the city, Welsh.] A freeman; one enfranchised.

Denizen is a British law term, which the Saxons and Angles

found here, and retained. *Davies's Preface.*

Thus th' Almighty fire began: ye gods,

Natives, or denizens, of blest abodes,

From whence these murmurs? *Dryden.*

A great many plants will hardly, with nursing, be made to

produce their seed out of their native soil; but corn, so necessary

for all people, is fitted to grow and to feed as a free denizon

of the world. *Grew's Coym. b. iii. c. 2.*

He summons straight his denizens of air;

The lucid squadrons the sails repair. *Pope's Rape of the Lock.*

To DENIZEN. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To enfranchise; to

make free.

Pride, lust, covetize, being several

To these three places, yet all are in all;

Mingled thus, their issue is incestuous;

Fallhood is denizen'd, virtue is barbarous. *Donne.*

To DENOMINATE. *v. a.* [*denomino*, Latin.] To name;

to give a name to.

Their commendable purpose being not of every one understood,

they have been in latter ages construed as though they

had superstitiously meant either that those places, which were

denominated of angels and saints, should serve for the worship

of so glorious creatures; or else those glorified creatures for

defence, protection, and patronage of such places. *Hooker, b. v.*

Predelination is destructive to all that is established among

men, to all that is most precious, to human nature, to the

two faculties that denominate us men, understanding and will;

for what use can we have of our understandings, if we cannot do

what we know to be our duty? And if we act not voluntarily,

what exercise have we of our wills? *Hammond's Fundamentals.*

DENOMINATION. *n. f.* [*denominatio*, Latin.] A name given

to a thing, which commonly marks some principal quality of

it.

But is there any token, denomination, or monument of the

Gauls yet remaining in Ireland, as there is of the Scythians?

Spenser's State of Ireland.

The liking or disliking of the people gives the play the

denomination of good or bad; but does not really make or constitute

it such. *Dryden's Defence of Dramatick Poesy.*

Philosophy, the great idol of the learned part of the Heathen

world, has divided it into many sects and denominations;

as Stoicks, Peripateticks, Epicureans, and the like. *Saunders.*

All men are sinners: the most righteous among us must

confess ourselves to come under that denomination. *Rogers.*

DENOMINATIVE. *adj.* [from denominative.]

1. That which gives a name; that which confers a distinct appellation.

2. That which obtains a distinct appellation. This would be

more analogically denominative.

The least denominative part of time is a minute, the greatest

integer being a year. *Cocker's Arithmetick.*

DENOMINATOR. *n. f.* [from denominative.] The giver of a

name; the person or thing that causes an appellation.

Both the seas of one name should have one common denominator.

Brown's Vulgar Errors.

DENOMINATOR of a Fraction, is the number below the line,

showing the nature and quality of the parts which any integer

is supposed to be divided into: thus in $\frac{3}{8}$ the denominator

shews, that the integer is supposed to be divided into 8

parts, or half quarters; and the numerator 3 shews, that you

take 3 of such parts, i. e. three quarters of the whole. *Harris.*

When a single broken number or fraction hath for its denominator

a number consisting of an unit, in the first place

towards the left hand, and nothing but cyphers from the unit

towards the right hand, it is then more aptly and rightly called